

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A water-soluble dry bowel cleansing composition comprising from 10 to 50% by weight of an uncoated phosphate powder comprising dibasic sodium phosphate or an admixture of dibasic sodium phosphate and monobasic sodium phosphate and from 50 to 90% by weight water-soluble or water-miscible polyethylene glycol (PEG), based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the sodium phosphate powder is dibasic sodium phosphate.

3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the sodium phosphate powder is a mixture of dibasic sodium phosphate and monobasic sodium phosphate.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition contains from 20 to 40% by weight sodium phosphate powder and from 60 to 80% by weight PEG, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

5. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition contains from 20 to 40% by weight sodium phosphate powder and from 60 to 80% by weight PEG, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

6. The composition of claim 3, wherein the composition contains from 20 to 40% by weight sodium phosphate powder and from 60 to 80% by weight PEG, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition contains from 20 to 30% by weight sodium phosphate powder and from 70 to 80% by weight PEG, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

8. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition contains from 20 to 30% by weight sodium phosphate powder and from 70 to 80% by weight PEG, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

9. The composition of claim 3, wherein the composition contains from 20 to 30% by weight sodium phosphate powder and from 70 to 80% by weight PEG, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

10. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a bowel stimulant.

11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the bowel stimulant is bisacodyl.

12. The composition of claim 10, wherein the bowel stimulant is Cascara sagrada.

13. A single dosage of a water-soluble dry bowel cleansing composition comprising from 5 grams to 45 grams of an uncoated phosphate powder comprising dibasic sodium phosphate or an admixture of dibasic sodium phosphate and monobasic sodium phosphate, and from 45 grams to 130 grams water-soluble or water-miscible PEG.

14. A single dosage of the composition of claim 13, comprising from 10 grams to 30 grams of phosphate powder and from 45 grams to 70 grams PEG.

15. A single dosage of the composition of claim 14, comprising from 15 grams to 25 grams of phosphate powder and from 55 grams to 65 grams PEG.

16. A method for cleansing the bowel comprising orally administering at least one dosage according to claim 13, dissolved in an aqueous medium.

17. A method for cleansing the bowel comprising orally administering at least one dosage according to claim 14, dissolved in an aqueous medium.

18. A method for cleansing the bowel comprising orally administering at least one dosage according to claim 15, dissolved in an aqueous medium.

19. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering at least one dosage according to claim 13, dissolved in an aqueous medium, within the 36 hour period preceding the procedure.

20. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering at least one dosage according to claim 14, dissolved in an aqueous medium, within the 36 hour period preceding the procedure.

21. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering at least one dosage according to claim 15, dissolved in an aqueous medium, within the 36 hour period preceding the procedure.

22. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering at least one dosage of a composition according to claim 13, dissolved in an aqueous medium, within the 36 hour period preceding the procedure and while maintaining a clear liquid diet.

23. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering at least one dosage of a composition according to claim 14, dissolved in an aqueous medium, within the 36 hour period preceding the procedure and while maintaining a clear liquid diet.

24. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering at least one dosage of a composition according to claim 15, dissolved in an aqueous medium, within the 36 hour period preceding the procedure and while maintaining a clear liquid diet.

25. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering on the day before the procedure at least two dosages of a composition according to claim 13, each dissolved in or taken with at least one quart of an aqueous medium.

26. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering on the day before the procedure at least two dosages of a composition according to claim 14, each dissolved in or taken with at least one quart of an aqueous medium.

27. A method for cleansing the bowel prior to a medical or surgical procedure comprising orally administering on the day before the procedure at least two dosages of a composition according to claim 15, each dissolved in or taken with at least one quart of an aqueous medium.

28. A single dosage of a dry bowel cleansing composition according to Claim 1, comprising from 5 grams to 45 grams of a water-soluble phosphate powder comprising dibasic sodium phosphate or an admixture of dibasic sodium phosphate and monobasic sodium phosphate, and from 45 grams to 130 grams water-soluble PEG.

29. A single dosage of the composition of claim 28, comprising from 10 grams to 30 grams of phosphate powder and from 45 grams to 70 grams PEG.

30. A single dosage of the composition of claim 29, comprising from 15 grams to 25 grams of phosphate powder and from 55 grams to 65 grams PEG.

31. A bowel cleansing kit comprising one or more dosages of a dry composition according to claim 13, one or more clear liquid diet powders, and optionally a flavor pack or other adjuvant.

32. A bowel cleansing kit comprising one or more dosages of a dry composition according to claim 14, one or more clear liquid diet powders, and optionally a flavor pack or other adjuvant.

33. A bowel cleansing kit comprising one or more dosages of a dry composition according to claim 15, one or more clear liquid diet powders, and optionally a flavor pack or other adjuvant.

34. A bowel cleansing kit comprising one or more dosages of a dry composition according to claim 28, one or more clear liquid diet powders, and optionally a flavor pack or other adjuvant.

35. A bowel cleansing kit comprising one or more dosages of a dry composition according to claim 29, one or more clear liquid diet powders, and optionally a flavor pack or other adjuvant.

36. A bowel cleansing kit comprising one or more dosages of a dry composition according to claim 30, one or more clear liquid diet powders, and optionally a flavor pack or other adjuvant.

37. A liquid bowel cleansing composition comprising from 10 to 50% by weight of dibasic sodium phosphate or an admixture of dibasic sodium phosphate and monobasic sodium phosphate and from 50 to 90% by weight polyethylene glycol (PEG) which is a liquid at room temperature, based on the combined weight of PEG and phosphate.

38. The composition of claim 37, wherein the sodium phosphate is dibasic sodium phosphate.

39. The composition of claim 38, wherein the sodium phosphate is a mixture of dibasic sodium phosphate and monobasic sodium phosphate.

40. The composition of claim 37, wherein the sodium phosphate is a powder.

41. The composition of claim 37, wherein the sodium phosphate is in an aqueous solution.